

# DAU Opens Mid-Atlantic Region in Patuxent River, Md.

## Taking Education Directly to the Workforce

SYLWIA GASIOREK-NELSON

Continuing its goal of transformation in acquisition training by providing products, services, and reorienting campuses where the acquisition workforce is highly concentrated, the Defense Acquisition University (DAU) opened its Mid-Atlantic Region at Patuxent River, Md., March 20. The official ribbon-cutting ceremony, hosted by Army Col. (P) James R. Moran, former DAU Commandant, Fort Belvoir, Va.; Navy Vice Adm. Joseph "Joe" Dyer, Commander, Naval Air Systems Command; and Barbara Smith, Dean, DAU Mid-Atlantic Region, took place at Patuxent River on April 10.

### Welcome

In one of her first public appearances as dean of the new region, Smith welcomed government-industry customers from the Mid-Atlantic Region; colleagues from DAU; and representatives from St. Mary's College, College of Southern Maryland, the local Chamber of Commerce, and St. Mary's County. Smith also recognized distinguished guests participating in the day's events: Donna Richbourg, Director, Acquisition Initiatives, Office of the Secretary of Defense; William Hauenstein, Director, Navy Acquisition Career Management; Moran and Dyer.

Smith emphasized that this event marks the continuation of a long and lasting relationship between the University and the major acquisition activities in the Mid-Atlantic Region.

"With our continued presence in both the Norfolk and Petersburg areas," said Smith, "and the stand-up of those state-of-the-art facilities for our customers, including the Naval Air Systems Team, we are positioned to provide world class training and support where and when it is needed.

"This is a dramatic step for transformation of the DoD acquisition workforce," she emphasized. "DAU Mid-Atlantic Region will be the keystone for acquisition education and performance support to provide sustained acquisition excellence within Defense Acquisition commands located within our five-state area. This is an exciting challenge as the workforce continues to evolve at a rapid rate with a large influx of new employees anticipated over the next few years."

### In the Foxhole

Introducing the first guest speaker, Smith welcomed Moran, whom she referred to as "the driving force behind the implementation of the DAU transformation."

"This a great day for the Mid-Atlantic community, DAU, and the Navy," Moran said. "Our intention is to try to regionalize and stand up five major campuses. We're four of five now, and it's a tremendous achievement. We have one more left in California—coming later this year," he said.

With the new regional scheme, Moran said that DAU was now "in the foxhole

with the customers," and by being a part of the community, DAU is able to provide more relevant products and services.



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"We're becoming a part of the Patuxent River and Navy community, and it's a great achievement for all of us at DAU. Thank you all for coming, and we're looking forward to serving the workforce in the DAU Mid-Atlantic Region," he concluded.

### Attempting Our Future

Dyer, who served as guest speaker for the ceremony, has long been associated with the Navy's Acquisition Workforce, supporting development and professional growth. He told the audience that there is a direct link between acquisition, technology, logistics, research and

development, test and evaluation, and delivery of "winning warfighting."

Looking to the future, Dyer said that we now have growing up today in this country, from ages 9 and 10, a set of people who are going to be well skilled in distance learning and well skilled in modeling and simulation.

Traditional Ribbon Cutting at the DAU Mid-Atlantic Region opening ceremony, Patuxent River, Md., April 10, 2002. Pictured from left: Dave Scibetta, DAU Deputy Director, Operations; Navy Vice Adm. Joseph "Joe" Dyer, Commander, Naval Air Systems Command; Barbara Smith, Dean, DAU Mid-Atlantic Region; Army Col. (P) James Moran, former DAU Commandant; and Donna Mason, Director, Resource and Administration, DAU Mid-Atlantic campus.

Photo by Army Sgt. Kevin Moses



"[They] are going to be a jump ahead of the rest of us in terms of managing programs and managing undertakings that are so important to our security in this nation, and so important in the role we play the world over."

Dyer said that he finds it exciting to see not only the great classrooms of the Patuxent facility, but also what's being done in terms of reaching out and in terms of extended learning.

"We are genuine and four-square standing in terms of our support and our input of greater numbers of people into this institution," he said.

Underscoring the importance of DAU's new facility, Dyer said, "It's where we train and attempt our future. It's where we'll draw upon not only for training into the future, but we expect to draw upon people with current and ongoing programs to have the kind of expertise that we would find at the Fort Belvoir campus. To find such expertise here, locally, is a wonderful thing."

Concluding his remarks, Dyer said, "Thank you for recognizing Pax River's role in the acquisition process. Thank you for coming here today. It's going to be a great association and we're looking forward to it."

### Cottonwood Building

The Mid-Atlantic campus consists of 44 staff and faculty members, who will focus not only on teaching but also on research and performance support. Their agenda includes working with local offices and staying current on major issues and needs of the acquisition workforce throughout that regional area, which has approximately 30,000 acquisition personnel.

The DAU Mid-Atlantic facility will offer the new six-week Program Management Office Course (PMT-352), replacing the former 14-week Advanced Program Management Course (PMT-302) as the Level III PM Certification Course, as well

# Patuxent River, Md., Location Ideal for DAU Mid-Atlantic Region

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—Barbara Smith  
Dean, DAU Mid-Atlantic Region  
April 10, 2002



DAU Mid-Atlantic campus.



Barbara Smith, Dean, DAU Mid-Atlantic Region, welcomes guests to the Mid-Atlantic Region opening ceremony.

Navy Vice Adm. Joseph "Joe" Dyer, Commander, Naval Air Systems Command.



Dyer, Smith, and Keynote speaker, Army Col. (P) James Moran, former DAU Commandant.



Army Col. Ronald Flom, new DAU Commandant, and Smith review DAU Mid-Atlantic campus curricula.





From left: Moran; Smith; Donna Richbourg, Director, Acquisition Initiatives, Office of the Secretary of Defense; and Flom.

One of the new classrooms within the Cottonwood Building, DAU Mid-Atlantic Region, Patuxent River NAS, Md.



Team DAU Mid-Atlantic.



## MID-ATLANTIC REGION

**B**arbara Smith was named Dean, DAU Mid-Atlantic Region, Patuxent River Naval Air Station, Patuxent River, Md., effective Sept. 24, 2001. Prior to joining DAU, Smith was the V-22 "Osprey" Deputy Program Manager at Naval Air Systems Command (NAVAIR), Patuxent River. Smith began her federal career as a Reliability Engineer on avionics and propulsion systems for the F-18 A/B program at NAVAIR. In 1978, she moved to Sikorsky Aircraft Company and helped develop the LAMPS Mark III Life Cycle Cost program, followed by an assignment as Proposal Manager for the SH-60F helicopter. Returning to NAVAIR, she spent five years in the AV-8B Program (PMA-257), guiding the development and transition of the AV-8B for the U.S. Marine Corps Fleet Marine Force.



extending its classroom capabilities through the establishment of regional campuses nationwide. Stepping forward and taking advantage of the new technology, DAU is fulfilling its goal and vision of providing continuing education and distance learning that meet the immediate needs of the acquisition professionals where they need it most—in the workplace.

The opening of the DAU Mid-Atlantic campus is the continuation of the DAU transition process, which started with the opening of the DAU South Region campus in Huntsville, Ala., to increase the staff and

faculty where the acquisition workforce is more visibly located.

The transition and reorganization of the University focuses on having five regions located at places where the workforce is concentrated: DAU Capital and Northeast Region, Fort Belvoir, Va.; DAU Midwest Region, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio; DAU South Region, Huntsville, Ala.; DAU Mid-Atlantic Region, Patuxent River NAS, Md.; and DAU West Region, San Diego, Calif. (coming later in 2002).

**Editor's Note:** For more information on the Mid-Atlantic Region, view their Web site at <http://www.almc.army.mil/DAU/>.

as a wide variety of business and technical courses, including Systems Engineering and Production courses available to military and civilian personnel within the Department of Defense. Current plans are to provide 70 to 80 weeks of instruction per year.

The DAU Mid-Atlantic Region campus is located at 23330 Cottonwood Parkway, California, Md. DAU will be among one of the first tenants of the brand-new building, will occupy 12,000 square feet of this first-class facility, and will be fully prepared to accommodate student needs. The facility also contains classrooms furnished with state-of-the-art equipment and furniture to enhance the students' learning experience. The new location, set in a beautiful wooded area, also offers a fitness center, excellent parking, and a new lounge with dining facilities.

**DAU Regional Transition Process**  
In the face of a constantly changing and evolving acquisition workforce, DAU is

## APMC 02-1 Class Gift Goes to Army Emergency Relief 9-11 Fund



**E**ach graduating class of the Defense Acquisition University's Advanced Program Management Course (APMC) typically leaves behind a lasting gift to the University. APMC 02-1 departed from that tradition for a very worthy cause. Senior APMC Section Leader, Navy Capt Paul R. Zambito (center) is holding a check for \$1,040—a gift from APMC 02-1 to the Army Emergency Relief (AER) 9-11 fund. Pictured with Zambito are DAU Commandant, Army Col. Ronald Flom (left) and Dave Fitch, Dean, Defense Systems Management College-School of Program Managers. Students of APMC Class 02-1 graduated from the 14-week course on April 19. (After the check was cut, the class received another \$24 in donations—also turned over to AER—bringing the total gift to \$1064.) Photo by Army Sgt. Kevin Moses